

St. Mary of the Lake/St. Patrick's of West Albany
Strategic Planning Summary
 January 22, 2015 – June 2, 2016

To use our resources, wisdom and energy to empower and encourage parish families and surrounding communities so that people see Christ in our works and commitment to make our parishes thrive and grow and to share our faith with others.

- Situation:** Pastoral Councils identified need to hire a position to assist Father with parish activities.
- Background:** Father Pete requested a process to gather information from the parishes about the top priorities
- Assessment:** On January 22, 2015, an event occurred with members from both parishes to collect the top priorities and needs of the parishes. This was accomplished using a SWOT process (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) within small groups reporting up to the full group.

In follow-up to the event, a Strategic Planning committee was formed to clarify the strategy, identify priorities and determine action plans.

Five priority areas identified by the Strategic Planning committee include:

1. Prayer/Spirituality
2. Communications/Marketing
3. Adult Enrichment
4. Hospitality and Outreach
5. Youth Programs

The work of the committee occurred from January 2015-June 2016. See table below for the details. In addition to creating a Strategy and working plan, a subset of the committee worked with Father Pete to create a Job Description for a Parish Coordinator. The position was posted and filled.

Recommendations:

1. Present the summarized work to the Pastoral Councils
2. Ongoing activity occurs under direction of the Pastoral Councils and Amazing Parish Team
3. Conclude the Strategic Planning Committee

Summary of Work by Priority

Priorities/Ideas	Activities
1. Prayer/Spirituality	
• Prayer Groups	See Adult faith formation
• Pray for priests/deacons	• <u>Every Sunday</u> : pray for vocation priesthood and religious life- kneel & pray beginning of

Priorities/Ideas	Activities
	Mass. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Once a quarter Mass Intention:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parish Religious Leaders: current priest, deacon, bishop ○ Following week: marriages and vocation of marriage • Prayer for Life in the Spirit seminar added 2.2.16
• Teach how to pray	Power of Prayer sessions held at both parishes Nov 2015
• Include prayer in all activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass: Talk about it in sermons, parts of Mass • Amazing Parish Team daily prayer; PC and APT meetings begin with Mass; • <u>Future:</u> Add Mass before Finance and CCW meetings • 7 Sisters Apostolate daily holy hour of prayer for Father
• Eucharistic Adoration	• Once a week at SM began June 2015; twice a week at SP continues
2. Communication/Marketing	
• Increase use of technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fr. Pete sends weekly email messages; • SP and SM joint website live 2.10.16 • SP Facebook page 2.16 • SM Facebook page continues
• Broadcast Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast St. Mary Mass on LC cable channel 4 times/week– began 04.18.16 Mass times are listed in bulletin and on website <u>Future:</u> Live streaming of Mass from SM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct surveys • Ongoing input from parishioners to learn about the Catholic Faith 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey: Spring 2016 <i>“What do you wish you knew about the Catholic Church or Catholic Faith?”</i> • Ongoing through the website
• Disseminate positive messages to counter negative messages in the media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications Team formed November 2015 • Articles have been published in LC Graphic and RST PB; • Posters created to advertise events; Use of Website and FB • Shredding of Mortgage; Sand Painting; Quilters, Mission Sewing; Confirmation; Father’s pilgrimage; SP Pancake Breakfasts; 1st Holy Communions; Confirmation; Graduations; St. Joseph’s Table; Rummage Sale; and more
• Advertise activities offered through DOW	
• Advertise what’s happening in LC and WA.	
• Use variety of communication vehicles including Web, local newspapers, TV, radio	
• Submit pictures of church activities to papers/Web	
• Update Parish Directories	
	• In process at SP expected completion date of 08.16
	Strengthening parishes strengthens communities.
3. Adult Enrichment	
• Men’s groups	• “That Man is You” held in Kellogg.

Priorities/Ideas	Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOW Men's Conference Man of God – April 2, 2016. 22 men from SM/SP attended As follow-up, 9 men met at SM 4/17/16 to process conference, decided to meet monthly – all men are invited
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP: "No Other gods" – Lent 2016 SP: "Walking With Purpose" – Fall 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rediscover Jesus (SP and SM) – Lent 2016 Life in the Spirit – 7 week seminar completed Spring 2016 at both parishes Spirit Prayer Group continues to meet weekly (Sundays at 4 PM)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Adult Enrichment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholicism 101 – Fall 2016. Planning underway "Crossing the Goal" to begin at SM in Fall 2016 Jeff Cavins Bible study – starting at SM Fall 2016, with focus on Old Testament Bishop Robert Barron Series on Catholicism (SM)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Small Group Discipleship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALPHA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Women's Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> W.I.N.E (Women in the New Evangelization) ENDOW (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women) True Beauty/Girl Genius
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Young adult 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-threatening, non- judgmental Catholic education to broad audience. Expand RCIA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholicism 101 RCIA 3 Candidates; 1 Adult Confirmand; 1 Catholic participant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith Forum – bulletin/discussion tables after Mass (SM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created table tents, trivia questions, etc. to promote teaching and fellowship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly Rosary/Potluck (SM) - Began December 2015 ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future Newlyweds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Father will meet with a group of 3-4 young couples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future One-two speakers/year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event on "Mercy" scheduled for August 28, 2016 – both parishes
4. Hospitality and Outreach	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on "Destination" theme 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evangelize to all people/welcoming attitude to ALL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address ushers/greeters: train/retrain – April – May 2016 (SM)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome newcomers (packets, dinners) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop welcome packets for each parish- SP completed with continued improvement planned; SM in process SM – Welcome baskets, Welcome Sundays (6/year); Welcome Page on Website; Welcome Board
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intercultural focus in all programs/groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help coordinate kitchen use with Hispanic community

Priorities/Ideas	Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quinceañera (SM) 11.15 • (SM) OLG celebration 12.15 • 5 more Quinceañeras in weeks ahead
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach, Mass in Hispanic communities/workplace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish Mass every 3rd Saturday of the month – 6:30 pm • Bilingual Mass with Fathers Morales and Pete • Regular Masses – all show more hospitality to our Hispanic church family • Father’s Anniversary Mass was bi-lingual (SM) May 15, 2016 • Specifically invite Hispanics for coffee/doughnuts after Mass • Explore any potential language barriers with Spanish-speaking parishioners – address them • Summer Bible School – 1 week in August – get registration forms to Miguel • Hispanic breakfasts (SM) 2015 and July 2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hispanic community would like to help with Fall Festival and with Christmas Bazaar – incorporating cultural items; explore in 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate activities between parishes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announce events from ambo, bulletin, website, and FB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support from Faith communities 	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentors 	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energize parishes to become amazing 	APT (Amazing Parish Team) (began Summer 2015; 3 members for SP and SM, Deacon, Parish Coordinator and Pastor)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social events 	Continue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of talent for lay ministries; commissioning at Mass 	More blending of guitar/keyboards for liturgies
5. Youth Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Post-Confirmation teens • Future: Steubenville Rochester Conference (July) • Target Post-graduation 	Ongoing SP – Care Packages sent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve parents • Future: Develop Learning Centers 	Ongoing – Catholicism101 (Being Catholic Program) both parishes;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teen coordinator 	Future
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Summit 	Promote involvement by junior high Spring/summer 2016 and every year after that (both parishes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steubenville 	Goal – send a group of senior high students from both parishes Spring/summer 2016 and annually
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth choir 	Youth choir begun Fall 2015 Once/mo.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve youth in all ministries in addition to altar 	Young Ushers Program-(SM) April- May 2016

Priorities/Ideas	Activities
servers	Ongoing at SP Family greeters (SM)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen Faith Formation Programs PreK-12 <p>Future: SM – Commissioning of Catechists in Fall 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a FF Committee to provide support to FF program - in process • Help parents and provide a positive focus • Teacher recognition – SP at beginning of year (blessing from parish) • Year-end appreciation dinner - SP • SM – Recognition/Appreciation by FF Coordinator